

# THE POLICE CORPS WEEKLY

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## Recruit Profile

Andrew Opperman



Sponsoring Agency: Green Bay Police Department

Age: 23

Hometown: Lake Geneva, WI

College: Concordia University

Major: Criminal Justice

Hobbies/Interests: Football, basketball, wrestling, baseball, paintballing, politics, world affairs, U.S. Army, music, spending time with wife and family, motorcycles, trucks



## COMMUNITY-ORIENTED POLICING & PROBLEM-SOLVING

BY: RECRUIT HAMILL

When most people hear the term “community policing,” the first thing that usually comes to mind is a program such as D.A.R.E. or Neighborhood Watch. Many police departments feel that programs like this constitutes a community policing program. The reality however, is that a community policing program is more than just programs, it is a total philosophy and a mindset that a police department follows by developing partnerships with the community and utilizing these partnerships to identify problems and develop long term solutions.

This week, Mr. Theo Darden returned for the second session of Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving. The training included instruction on the basic philosophy of community oriented policing and group exercises to demonstrate these concepts.

On Friday, the class went out into the



### Recruits visit Lacrosse County Jail

neighboring communities of Tomah and LaCrosse to ask citizens how they feel about community policing and the police within their communities. Most of the citizens felt that their only contact with the police was in response to complaints, and little to no contact was made with the police otherwise.

The day ended with a tour of the LaCrosse County Jail where the recruits learned how serious of problem recidivism is. The LaCrosse County Jail

kept track of approximately 150 inmates on two separate occasions. Out of the 150, only one was in the jail for the first time, a recidivism rate that is alarming.

Through effective community policing, the police can work with the community to reduce crime and provide long-term solutions to problems within the community, a skill that will be invaluable to the recruits and their host agencies.

## ROOM CLEARING & ACTIVE SHOOTER

### BY: RECRUIT KASTERN

On Sunday and Monday of Week 11, the recruits received classroom instruction on clearing buildings and responding to active shooter situations. Sgt. Anibas and Sgt. Page from the Eau Claire Police Department instructed the important training. Recruits followed the first day up with clearing multiple rooms in the building, using different tactics, while knowing that there is a possibility of a staged suspect lurking in the shadows of the corners. In addition to clearing a couple of rooms, the recruits each paired up and practiced clearing stairwells, which called for a different approach than going into a room. The recruits learned the basic hand

signals for communication to prevent suspects from knowing the location of the officers.

Monday brought the excitement of training at the offense/defense house. This is a house-like structure with different points of entry, and three levels of rooms. The class geared up with masks and full head/neck protection, and traded their duty weapons in for simunition guns, which shoot rounds filled with detergent. Pairs of recruits participated in various scenarios which all included searching the house and not knowing what to expect once inside. These practice sessions offered a wonderful experience to the class, as they could put their newly-

learned information to the test.

Finally, the class split up into two groups and formed a contact team, to respond to a situation of an active shooter within the building. The rest of the class role-played wounded victims, and forced the contact team to move over and around them as they tactically made their way through the house to the location of the shooter. Sgt. DeFrang was the suspect, and a great sport, as he was hit with sixteen simunition bullets between the two scenarios. All of the recruits enjoyed this training and agreed that they would like to see these types of scenarios again.

### *What is an Active Shooter?*

*An active shooter is one or more subjects who participate in a random or systematic shooting spree, who are demonstrating their intent to continuously harm others*

## PROPERTY CRIMES

### BY: RECRUIT KRAEGER



This week Sgt. Page of the Eau Claire Police Department instructed the class on crimes against property. Property crimes include, burglary, theft, retail theft, criminal damage, and robbery. The class was split up into small groups, and each group had to dissect the elements of each crime and present it to the class. Each crime appears to be closely related, but has

specific elements that make them different from each other.

The following is the simplified breakdown of each crime. Burglary is a crime when someone enters a building without consent of the owner, and that person has intent to steal or commit a felony in that place. Robbery is a crime when a person has intent to steal property from a person

by using force or the threat of force. An example of this would be a bank robbery. Theft has to do with taking moveable property away from the owner without consent, and the perpetrator intends on permanently depriving that person of the property.

It is important to understand the differences between property crimes, so that the crime can be identified properly and be solved.

# LIQUOR LAWS & FRAUDULENT I.D.'s

## BY: RECRUIT KUNZ

On Wednesday, Mr. Johnson from the Wisconsin Department of Revenue came to teach the class about WI's state liquor laws and fraudulent identification problems. The six-hour session with Mr. Johnson was very insightful and entertaining. We discussed the different classes of liquor licenses that businesses must have when selling alcohol in any establishment. We also learned about the various laws that are set in WI state statutes that involve underage persons, regarding the possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages. Many of the re-

cruits are going to college-incorporated cities, where underage drinking will most likely be a problem. Mr. Johnson gave recruits helpful hints on what to watch for whenever we might come across underage consumers.

Mr. Johnson also taught the class about fraudulent identification, or "Fake I.D.'s." We learned that those who possess a fake I.D. intend to commit some sort of crime. Whether that be large-scale crimes such as terrorism, or a smaller-scale crime like trying to get into a bar because the person is not of

age. Mr. Johnson gave the class a few exercises, which included every recruit to look at the various forms of I.D. cards and identify if they were real or fake. We looked at the numerous attempts taken to alter, or change the information on an identification card.

In order to be effective officers when recognizing fake I.D.'s, we must become very aware of the fake I.D. trend in our communities. Mr. Johnson gave us a great head start on pinpointing fraudulent forms of identification.



*Things to look for on false I.D.'s:*

*Picture*

*Scratches*

*Glue Lines*

*Inconsistent Numbers*

*Hologram*

*Thickness*

## AGENCY PROFILE: MANITOWOC POLICE DEPARTMENT

### BY: RECRUIT WALLACE

The City of Manitowoc, along the shore of Lake Michigan, is home to 34,053 residents. Recruit Wallace is sponsored by the Manitowoc Police Department, and is greatly anticipating becoming a part of the Manitowoc community.

The mission of the Manitowoc City Police Department is to, "ensure and enhance the quality of life in the city of Manitowoc by working cooperatively with the community and each other within the framework

of the U.S. Constitution to prevent crime, maintain order, and provide a safe environment. Central to our mission are the values that guide our work and decisions. We hold our values constantly before us to teach and remind us of our ideals. They are the foundation upon which our policies, goals, and operations are built. In fulfilling our mission, we need the support of our citizens, elected representatives, and city officials in order to provide the qual-

ity of service our values commit us to providing. The Manitowoc city police department values Human Life, Integrity, Excellence, Accountability, Cooperation, Problem Solving, Laws, and Constitution."

The mission of the Manitowoc Police Department shows a commitment, by the agency, to continually work to make progress in enhancing the quality of life for its citizens. Recruit Wallace is proud to be associated with such a dedicated department.